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Apostle Islands News Release

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Civil War to Civil Rights Trading Cards Available at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Trading cards have been popular with kids for generations, from images of sports figures to movie stars. Now, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is offering free trading cards featuring historic people, places, and objects of local significance. The four different cards tell the stories of Chief Buffalo, Lightkeeper Frances Jacker and his wife Catherine, the Raspberry Island Light, and a pair of Civil War era binoculars.

The cards available at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore are part of a series of 550 cards available at participating national parks throughout the United States. To "earn" a trading card, kids may participate in a ranger-led tour or answer a question about their visit to the park.

"The trading cards are vehicles for telling some 'lesser-known' stories – including the stories of civilians, women, African-Americans and American Indians," said Superintendent Bob Krumenaker. "It may surprise people to learn that the Apostle Islands have a Civil War and Civil Rights connection, but they do," he added. The trading cards are a great way to engage kids with our history as a nation, both here at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and throughout the United States. According to Krumenaker, the cards also provide an incentive to families with children to visit all parks which offer the cards.

Each trading card tells a little-known story but collectively the cards describe the struggles we have endured as a nation to strive for freedom and equality. The Civil War Sesquicentennial and the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement provide opportunities for us to reflect upon our past, celebrate the strides we have made and look forward with commitment to achieve a more perfect union.